

## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A multilayer type of information recording medium (e.g., optical disk) is provided. The medium is provided therein a plurality of information recording layers and a single corresponding-information recording layer into which information corresponding to information recorded in the information recording layers is recordable. The corresponding information is for example control information for controlling recording or reproduction of the information. The corresponding-information recording layer is provided with a reflection layer to reflect an optical beam radiated to optically read the corresponding information. A distance from a beam-incidence-side surface of the medium to the corresponding-information recording layer is the same as that in a monolayer type of information recording medium. An information recording and reproducing apparatus used, in a selective way, for the multilayer type and monolayer type of information recording mediums is provided as well.